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February 14, 2018

Honorable Joanna I. Tabit, Judge Circuit Court of Kanawha County Judicial Annex 111 Court Street Charleston, WV 25301

Re: Soaring Eagle Lodge Master Association, Inc., et al. v. Soaring Eagle

Development Company, LLC, et al.

Civil Action No. 15-C-2202

Dear Judge Tabit:

Enclosed please find an Agreed Order Vacating Default Judgment Order in the above-captioned matter. If the Order meets with your approval, please execute and forward it to the Clerk for entry.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Webster J. Arceneaux, III

WJA/kle Enc.

cc: All Counsel of Record

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF KANAWHA COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

#### **BUSINESS COURT DIVISION**

SOARING EAGLE LODGE MASTER ASSOCIATION, INC., a West Virginia nonprofit corporation; and SOARING EAGLE LODGE ASSOCIATION, INC., a West Virginia non-profit corporation,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SOARING EAGLE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company; GBBN ARCHITECTS, INC., an Ohio corporation; and BRANCH & ASSOCIATES, INC., a Virginia corporation,

Defendants,

and

SOARING EAGLE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company; and BRANCH & ASSOCIATES, INC., a Virginia corporation,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

v.

TRI-STATE ROOFING & SHEET METAL COMPANY OF WEST VIRGINIA, a/k/a TRI-STATE ROOFING & SHEET METAL CO., a West Virginia corporation; APPLIED MECHANICAL SYSTEMS, INC., an Ohio corporation; RICHARDSON AND MARCH CARPENTRY, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company; and EASTCOAST SIDING, INC., a Maryland corporation,

**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 15-C-2202** 

Presiding Judge: Tabit Resolution Judge: Matish Third-Party Defendants,

and

BRANCH & ASSOCIATES, INC., a Virginia corporation,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

v.

O.C. CLUSS LUMBER COMPANY, a
Pennsylvania corporation, and GAF
MATERIALS CORPORATION, a New
Jersey corporation; QUALITY STONE
VENEER, INC.; MODERN LIGHTNING
PROTECTION, INC.; JAMES HARDIE
BUILDING PRODUCTS, INC.; and
FIBERON, LLC.,

Third-Party Defendants,

and

O.C. CLUSS LUMBER COMPANY, a Pennsylvania corporation,

Fourth-Party Plaintiff,

v.

GAF MATERIALS CORPORATION, a New Jersey corporation, and FIBERON, LLC, a North Carolina Limited Liability Company,

Fourth-Party Defendants,

and

SOARING EAGLE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company,

Third-Party Plaintiff,

 $\mathbf{v}_{\bullet}$ 

THE TRAVELERS INDEMNITY
COMPANY OF AMERICA, a Connecticut
corporation and Travelers Property and
Casualty Company of America,

Third-Party Defendant.

## AGREED ORDER VACATING DEFAULT JUDGMENT ORDER

This day came O.C. Cluss Lumber Company, fourth-party plaintiff ("O.C. Cluss") and Fiberon, LLC, fourth-party defendant ("Fiberon"), by counsel, and the Court hereby enters the following **ORDER**:

- 1. On January 2, 2018, this Court entered an Order granting Default Judgment in favor of O.C. Cluss against Fiberon ("Default Judgment Order").
  - 2. Defendant Fiberon engaged counsel in this matter on or about February 6, 2018.
- 3. Counsel advised Fiberon that it has meritorious defenses and grounds to seek to set aside the Default Judgment order on the basis of excusable neglect.
- 4. Fiberon has since been served with a Third-Party Complaint in this civil action filed by Branch & Associates, Inc., and has been attempting informally to interact with various counsel and come up to speed on events that have taken place since the filing of the original Complaint.
- 5. O.C. Cluss has agreed to vacate and set aside the Default Judgment Order and allow all claims against Fiberon to proceed on the merits.
- 6. The foregoing constitutes good cause under Rule 55(c) of the West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure, which provides that "flor good cause shown the court may set aside an entry

of default and, if a judgment by default has been entered, may likewise set it aside in accordance with Rule 60(b)." W. Va. R. Civ. P. 55(c).

7. The Court further finds, consistent with *Hardwood Group v. Larocco* 219 W. Va. 56, 631 S.E.2d 614 (2006), that: (1) given the procedural posture of the civil action coupled with the recent entry of the Default Judgment Order, there will be no prejudice to O.C. Cluss in vacating and setting aside the default judgment; (2) Fiberon asserts that there are material issues of fact and meritorious defenses to the claims alleged by O.C. Cluss; (3) given the number of parties, competing claims and value of the damages alleged by Plaintiff, Soaring Eagle Lodge Master Association, Inc., that there are significant interests at stake; (4) that the degree of intransigence on the part of Fiberon is nominal under the circumstances; and (5) that Fiberon's failure to answer was a result of excusable neglect as contemplated under Rule 60(b) of the West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure.

It accordingly **ORDERED** that the Court's Default Judgment Order, granting default judgment to O.C. Cluss against Fiberon, is hereby **VACATED** and set aside for good cause as contemplated under Rules 55(c) and 60(b) of the West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure. Fiberon shall have 20 days from entry of this Order to file an answer or other responsive pleading to O.C. Cluss' Fourth-Party Complaint.

The Clerk of this Court is further **ORDERED** to forward certified copies of this Order to all counsel of record addressed as follows:

ENTER this	day of		
		Honorable Joanna I. Tabit	_

# PREPARED BY:

Webster J. Arceneaux, III, WVSB 155

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# **APPROVED BY:**

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